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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCH REFREY
WASHINGTON D.C. 20005

16 April 1979

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25X1	FROM	:	Chairman
	SINJECT	:	Panel 9 Report

- 1. This note will follow up our discussion at your presentation of the Pamel 9 report to the Working Group on 13 April.
- 2. I have already expressed my views regarding the feasibility of a complete retrofitting to accommadate to the new APEX system. My immediate concern is about the dollar and time estimates provided by your panel members for the immediate transition to an APEX system. I not only find the dollar figures mind-boggling, but find the extremes of the time estimates to be both unreal and unacceptable. I don't know the reason for these high estimates, but I urge you, on a priority basis, to reconvene your panel to re-examine the question. I think it imperative that the panel focus on what needs to be dome-- the dollar and time implications -- to enable the Community to transfer to the APEX system without worrying about retrofitting of materials or any other changes which they might feel desirable in either communications or computer handling of materials. In other words, I would like estimates that focus directly on the question and which would enable us in the shortest time frame possible to convert our systems to accommodate the new codewords and new compartments.
- 3. I would hope that you would be able to brief me on the results of this re-examination on 23 April if at all possible. If not, I would have to have the results early in the following week.

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